



**SOPs for Point of Entries for Ebola Virus Disease
Directorate Central Health Establishment, NIH Islamabad**

**Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for
Ebola Virus Disease
At Point of Entries**

November 2014

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Standard Operating Procedure	SOP No. 02
Version	2.1
Test	Point of Entrees for Ebola Virus Disease
Prepared on	November, 2014
Pages	1-4

Background:

Because of the Ebola outbreak, the Directorate Central Health Establishment, Federal Investigation Agency (Immigration) and Civil Aviation Authority Pakistan initiated entry screening of travellers who have travelled from or have been in transit through Ebola affected countries (Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone). The Directorate Central Health Establishment staff closely with Immigration (FIA) and the Civil Aviation Authority at the international airports and other Point of entry vigilantly looks for sick travellers with possible contagious diseases and check for the travel documents to identify asymptomatic travellers. These measures will enhance the possibility of detecting an Ebola cases entering the country. This arrangement is specially enhanced at three International airports (Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi). The staff at these airports are trained and equipped to respond quickly to any report of an ill traveller or a passenger arriving at the airport from the affected countries.

Objective:

- To establish mechanism of Ebola Screening at the Point of Entrees
- To devise a procedure for screening, quarantine & referral of suspected Ebola patient under investigation or a Confirmed Case
- To provide information about Ebola to the passengers & for follow-up wit the authorities

Scope:

As the Pakistan prepares for Ebola response, a need was felt to put in place Rapid Response Teams which could be mobilized on short notice in cases of Ebola related event. The documents describe the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Rapid Response Teams.

Procedure:

- The airlines will provide list of passengers who originate or have transit from the Ebola affected countries with Civil Aviation Authorities.



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- The Civil Aviation Authorities will immediately notify the arrival of the reported traveller to the immigration and port health authorities.
- In-flight announcement will be made for the passenger who originate or transit from the Ebola virus affected countries to approach first the health counter for health clearance before proceeding for immigration. Besides list of such passengers should be provided by the airline from their reservation database to Civil Aviation Authorities.
- The passengers who originate/ transit from EVD countries shall be booked by the airlines for only Pakistan destinations of Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad;
- Those passengers who originate/ transit from EVD affected countries who do not self-report to the health counter will be traced by immigration staff on duty during the screening of passenger passport at immigration desk and he will be referred to health counter for medical assessment.
- At the entrance of international arrival the Health counter with trained staff will be available round the clock during international flight operations
- A banner regarding EVD information will be displayed at the health counter at international arrival
- After detecting the originated or transit passenger from EVD affected countries the passenger will approach or refer to health counter port health authorities will assess the passenger accordingly.
 - If passenger is detected with signs and symptoms at Aircraft then the medical team should reach Aircraft with full PPEs and isolate the patient from other passengers and carry him in ambulance to isolation room at airport for detailed examination after confirming the suspected case the patient will be soon shifted in well-equipped ambulance to designated isolation ward at tertiary hospital in province for proper management.
- The rest of the passengers and crew will be kept under observation for 21 days after providing awareness on EVD and asked them to contact soon with relevant health official if any sign & symptom appears within 21 days.
- If any suspected passenger is being detected during the screening/assessment at medial counter, then he must be shifted soon in protective equipped ambulance to designated isolation hospital/ward at province for further management.
- The port health authority shall maintain contact details of such patients on a separate register or computer database.



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- If any detected passenger originated or transit from EVD effected country within 21 days he must be examined thoroughly for any evidence of sign & symptoms of EVD and if he found asymptomatic then after giving health education on EVD he will be kept under observation for 21 days and shall be followed by the port health authorities.

- In exceptional circumstances asymptomatic passengers with proven high risk exposures to EBV may need to be quarantined where a 21-day follow-up cannot be guaranteed. Examples may include:
 - Residing in inaccessible areas or areas with military operations
 - Lack of insight into the need for close follow-up
 - Others

- The information on passenger detection and case management will be provided weekly basis both through email and hard copy on the provided format to:
 - Federal Ebola focal person
 - Provincial Ebola focal person